

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1-20. (Cancelled)
21. (Original) A method of recharging robotic devices, said method comprising the steps of:
querying a robotic device whether it has reached a given level of depletion;
if the robotic device has reached said given level of depletion, negotiating with said robotic device using a protocol to determine a time slot for charging said robotic device; and
providing charging for said robotic device during said time slot.
22. (Original) The method of Claim 21, further comprising the steps of:
providing said robotic device with new tasks or updated programming during said time slot.
23. (Original) The method of Claim 21, wherein the step of using said protocol comprises the steps of:
offering a next available time slot at which said robotic device can report to said charging station for charging; and
if said robotic device provides a confirmation of said time slot, scheduling said robotic device for said time slot, else
incrementing said available time slot and returning to said offering step.
24. (Original) The method of Claim 21, wherein said charging station maintains separate schedules for each of a plurality of connectors.
25. (Original) The method of Claim 21, wherein said plurality of connectors are different and said protocol includes determining a connector of said plurality of connectors that said robotic device can utilize for charging.
26. (Original) A method of recharging a robotic device, said method comprising the steps of:
determining that an onboard battery has reached a given level of depletion;
contacting an associated charging station;

requesting charging;
receiving and storing a time slot for charging; and
reporting for charging during said time slot.

27. (Original) The method of Claim 26, further comprising the steps of:
receiving new tasks or updated programming during said time slot.

28. (Original) The method of Claim 26, further comprising notifying said charging station of a need
for a specific connector needed for charging.

29-35. (Cancelled)